

# Gaudete Sunday

“Rejoice Always. Pray without ceasing.”

I Thessalonians 5:16



December 13, 2020

## Saint Thomas More Parish

Rev. Father Nicholas Schumm, Pastor  
Rev. Father Eugene Casserly, Priest in Residence  
Rev. Monsignor John Cassidy, Pastor Emeritus  
Lois Hicks, Parish Assistant, Office Manager  
Michele Kenaga, Director of Faith Formation  
James White, Part-time Maintenance

### Finance Council

Jim Mathis, *chairperson*  
Anne Bode  
Joe Buehler  
Mort O'Sullivan

### Parish Pastoral Council

Bill Janis, *chairperson*  
Ann Bode, *finance council representative*  
Heidi Nees, *secretary*  
Kathy Decker  
James Etheridge  
Molly Henley  
Patrick Kinnell  
Karen Manning  
Carl Smith  
Delia Stierwalt

### Other Parish Groups and Ministries

Sacred Liturgy - Father Nicholas Schumm  
Ushers - Charlie Dickin  
Religious Education - Michele Kenaga  
Faith Formation - Michele Kenaga  
Youth Group - Sarah Manning  
RCIA - Father Nicholas Schumm  
Ladies Altar Society, CCW - Heidi Nees  
Knights of Columbus - James Etheridge  
Respect Life - Karen Manning  
Bereavement - Lois Hicks  
Outreach - Lynn VanNatter  
Burse Club - Joyce Edgar  
Book Club - Mary Williams

## MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY — December 12th - 4:00 PM  
**DOMENICO CATALDI** †  
Req. by: Mary Rosasco

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13th  
8:00 AM - **LUCILLE D'AMICO** (living)  
Req. by: Ruth Carpinella

10:00 AM - **PRO POPULO**  
(for the people of the parish)

7:00 PM - **HUGH & AMY WINGATE**  
(living)

MONDAY— December 14th - 7:00 AM  
**PHYLLIS BOWEN** †  
Req. by: Jim Bowen

TUESDAY — December 15th - 7:00 AM  
**MURIEL REDMOND** †  
Req. by: Joe Buehler

TUESDAY—December 15th - 6:00 PM  
LATIN MASS  
**MR. & MRS. STEPHEN KAZYAK FAMILY**  
(living)  
Req. by: William Kazyak

WEDNESDAY — December 16th - 7:00 AM  
**CORY WAITE** †  
Req. by: Jim Bowen

THURSDAY — December 17th - 8:00 AM  
**ANGELA MARIA ROSASCO** (living)  
Req. by: Mary Rosasco

FRIDAY — December 18th - 8:00 AM  
**ANGELA FISHBURN** †  
Req. by: Becky and Joel Edmondson

SATURDAY—December 19th - 4:00 PM  
**ANN (NINA) ROSASCO** †  
Req. by: Angela Maria and Mary Rosasco

### EMERGENCY PHONE LINE



Attention to all parishioners of Saint Thomas More! Our priests have a new phone line for Sacramental emergencies only. Please leave a detailed voicemail message at (850) 266-5996.



## CATHOLIC SHARING APPEAL 2020

**Total Pledge Goal: \$35,689.89**

**Number of Families Pledged: 127\*\***

**Number of Parish Families: 295**

\*\*Please note that we still have not met our goal. Out of 295 families, there are now 127 families who are participating in CSA. To be considered an active parishioner, one must be registered, participate regularly in Mass, give to offertory, and participate in Catholic Sharing Appeal. If you need help with CSA, contact the Parish Office at 456-2543.



### THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

Pope Francis declared the new liturgical year as the **Year of St. Joseph**. The year begins Dec. 8th, and it is Pope Francis's hope that this year will be one, "in which every faithful following St Joseph's example can daily strengthen their life of faith in the full fulfillment of God's will."

The decree states that, "All the faithful will thus have the opportunity to commit themselves, with prayer and good works, to obtain with the help of Saint Joseph, head of the celestial Family of Nazareth, comfort and relief from the serious human and social tribulations that today grip the contemporary world."

**Pope Francis has added indulgence opportunities to the decree.** The indulgence request the individual to follow the three individual conditions—sacramental Confession, Holy Communion, and pray for the Holy Father, as well as detach oneself from sin. **There are 8 ways to gain a plenary (total) indulgence during the Year of Saint Joseph:**

- 1) Meditate for 30 minutes on the Our Father.
- 2) Attend a spiritual day retreat that includes Saint Joseph meditation.
- 3) Carry out a corporal or spiritual work of mercy.
- 4) Recite the Holy Rosary with your family.
- 5) Entrust your day/work to Saint Joseph; invoke his protection and intercession.
- 6) Pray to Saint Joseph for persecuted Christians
- 7) Recite any legitimately approved prayer or act of piety in honor of Saint Joseph.
- 8) For the elderly, sick, and dying: Recite an act of piety in Saint Joseph's honor; entrust life and discomforts to Saint Joseph.

**SAINT JOSEPH, PRAY FOR US!**

*Rejoice!*

### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Today we celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday. "Gaudete" is a Latin word that means "rejoice." The Christian steward should be characterized by a spirit of rejoicing.

Our First Reading, from Isaiah, expresses a fitting motto for us. "I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul." It is God Who is the source of our joy and contentment — not things or comfort, but our relationship with God.

This is why stewards can share so freely of their time, talents and material possessions — because ultimately, we are not attached to these things. We recognize them as good gifts from our loving Father, but we are attached to the Giver of the gifts, not the gifts themselves. This allows for great freedom in life and the capacity for great joy in the Lord.

We can become like John the Baptist, in today's Gospel passage from the Book of John. We read this description of the prophet: "He came for testimony, to testify to the light... He was not the light but came to testify to the light." This is our calling too — to testify to the Light, our wonderful Savior — by the way we make use of the time, talent and treasure He has entrusted to our care.

When God Himself is the source of our joy, it cannot be taken away from us. There is still time, during this Advent season, to clear away any "clutter" in our lives that may take our focus away from Him. Let us strive to detach from any of these things so that we can be free to truly rejoice in God on Christmas Day.

### EMERALD COAST WALK FOR LIFE - JANUARY 15-16, 2021

**January 15, 6:30 PM:** Pro-Life Mass with Bishop Wack at St. Paul Catholic Church, 3131 Hyde Park Road, Pensacola.

**January 16, 9:30AM:** Mass at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 140 W. Government St., Pensacola. This Mass is geared to youth and young adults.

**January 16, 11:00 AM:** Speaker event, featuring speaker Ryan Bomberger, internationally known speaker, author, and co-founder of Radiance Foundation.

Walk through downtown Pensacola follows.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17; Ps 25:4-9; Mt 21:23-27  
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34: 2-3, 6-7, 17-23;  
Mt 21:28-32  
Wednesday: Is 45:6-8, 18, 21-25; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 7:18-23  
Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17  
Friday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19;  
Mt 1:18-25  
Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25; Ps 71:3-6, 16-17  
Lk 1:5-25  
Sunday: 2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29;  
Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-28

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent; Saint Lucy  
Monday: Saint John of the Cross  
Tuesday: Saint Mary di Rosa  
Thursday: Saint Olympias

"In the dark night of the soul,  
bright flows the river of God."

-St. John of the Cross, feast day 14 December

## Announcements

If you have an announcements or event you would like published in the bulletin, the deadline for submitting your information to the Parish Office is Tuesday by 12noon. You can reach the Office at 456-2543.



### MASS INTENTIONS

There are no more Mass intentions available in 2020. The Parish Office will start taking 2021 intentions on Tuesday, January 5, 2021.

*welcome*

Are you new to the parish? There are Parish Registration forms in the vestibule. You can place it in the offertory collection, give it to an usher or greeter, or you can bring it by the Parish Office at 412 Bayshore Drive.

## Please, pray for our sick parishioners:

Richard Beecher	Dan Owczarczak
Rusty Bizzell	Jim Pence
Dottie Bosso	Damion Rampersaud
Needa Brazwell	Babe Rohan
Rusty Budde	Mary Teschel
Anna Christco	Terry Teschel
Beth Gutermuth	Catherine Voisinet
Richard Hahner	Theresa Wescott
Regina Kaufman	Shelba Westmoreland
Genny Manwaring	Jinann Wey
Nelson Ortiz	Dorothy Wilkerson



If you would like the name of a parishioner or immediate family member added here, please contact the Parish Office at 850-456-2543.

**If someone needs the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick please call the Parish Office at 850-456-2543. If there is no answer, please leave a message with name and phone number and the priest will call you back.**

## CORONAVIRUS GUIDELINES

1. If you or someone in your home has a positive test result, is sick, or has an underlying health issue, please stay home to keep yourself safe.
2. Always practice good hygiene. Wash your hands frequently, and avoid touching your face.
3. The church is sanitized daily, and professionally cleaned on Friday evenings.
4. At this time, we are still dispensed by Bishop Wack from attending Mass on Saturday evenings and Sundays.
5. **Bishop Wack encourages the wearing of masks.** To support this goal, the parish has facemasks available in the Narthex, to wear to and from the pew and in the enclosed area of the Narthex.
6. **COME TO MASS AT YOUR OWN RISK.** Your activities can increase the risk to yourself or others.

# Saint Thomas More Parish News & Noteworthy Items

## Parish Events:

**Parish Pastoral Council** - The next meeting will be on **Thursday, January 14th** with dinner provided starting at 6:00 PM. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

**Ladies Altar Society, CCW**— The next meeting will be on **January 10th** in the Parish Hall after the 8:00 AM Mass. All women of the parish are invited and welcome. For more information, please call Heidi Nees at (850) 384-6742.

**Knights of Columbus**  
**Father Keating Council #15836** - The next business meeting will be on **Tuesday, January 12th**, starting at 6:00 PM with the Rosary. All are welcome to attend the Rosary. For more info call Grand Knight James Etheridge at (251) 294-0505.

**Book Club Meeting** – The next meeting will be on **Tuesday January 5th** at 9:30 AM in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to attend Book Club.

**Weekly Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal** will be said here at Saint Thomas More Parish every **Wednesday morning** at 7:30 AM following the 7:00 AM Daily Mass.

**Parish Breakfasts**  
At this time there are no Parish Breakfasts.

**Traditional Latin Masses:**  
Every Tuesday at 6:00 PM (Low Mass)  
Every Third Sunday at 8:00 AM (Sung Mass)  
\*\*There will be no Latin Mass on Tuesday, 12/29\*\*

Every Friday, Eucharistic Adoration follows 7:00 AM Mass, Benediction at 8:00 AM.

**First Friday Adoration with music** is held every other month unless otherwise noted. The next First Friday with music event will be held on **December 4th, 6:30-8:00pm**.

**First Saturday**, The Holy Rosary will be recited at 3:30 PM in the church in honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and her request at Fatima in 1917.

## MASS SCHEDULE

### Daily Mass

Monday through Friday at 7:00 AM, unless otherwise noted.

### Saturday

Confessions at 3:00 PM  
Mass at 4:00 PM

### Sunday

Mass at 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, and 7:00 PM

### Traditional Latin Mass

Every Tuesday at 6:00 PM (no Latin Mass on 12/29)  
Third Sunday of every month at 8:00 AM

**Bishop Wack has extended the dispensation of the Obligation to attend Mass on the Lord's Day. One does not have to go to Mass on Saturday evening or Sunday until further notice.**

**JAN 01**  
**2021**

PENSACOLA  
YOUNG ADULT  
RETREAT

one.  
TALK AND WORSHIP LESS BY  
CELEBRATING WEDDAYS OF  
HIS OWN MINISTRIES

worship reflect connect

Free event  
RSVP TO POPEKJ@SHC.PTDIOCESE.ORG  
CATHEDRAL OF THE  
SACRED HEART  
1-4PM  
AVE MARIA HALL

## 2020 Advent and Christmas Schedule



Copies of the 2020 Advent and Christmas schedule for Saint Thomas More Parish are in the Narthex and on the Parish website. Please make sure to keep one and refer to it during this Advent and Christmas season for Confession and Mass times.

## FAITH FORMATION

**CONFIRMATION.** There will be a mandatory meeting for all who are seeking Confirmation in March 2021. This is open to anyone in 9th grade or higher. The meeting will be at 9:00 AM on Saturday, December 19th in the Parish Hall.

**K-8TH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.** Classes will resume on **Sunday, January 10th** from 8:50-9:50 AM in the Parish Office at 412 Bayshore Drive.